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National Center for Analysis of Energy Systems

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Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
Room S-337
Stanford University Medical Center
Stanford, CA 94305

Dear Josh:

I expect you are wondering what has happened to the proposed International Scientific Committee on Energy, Health, and the Environment. We have had an Action Memorandum sitting on Dr. J. L. Liverman's desk [Acting Assistant Secretary for Environment, U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)], since February 1, 1978. Liverman has unfortunately been preoccupied with other matters. For the past several months I was hoping weekly that Liverman would sign off on this activity, but it now appears that he is to be replaced shortly by a Presidential nominee, and it is therefore most unlikely that he will proceed with this initiative.

Rather than delay beginning the work of the Committee further, I am proceeding with the formation of the Committee and seeking financial support elsewhere from as broad sources as possible (there may be an advantage in not beginning with energy money). We can then seek patronage sponsorship from appropriate international organizations, e.g., WHO, OECD. When the new Assistant Secretary of Environment is on board, we can return for DOE support.

I am also enclosing a copy of the DOE plan for $\rm CO_2$ research. I thought we might make a brief survey of who's doing what in this area as a subtask in our first two years activity.

I also intend to come up shortly with a description of our space needs, etc. and will forward these to Rodney Nichols and you, hoping this will not be too late to fit into your planning.

Warm regards.

Sincerely,

L. D. Hamilton, M.D., Ph.D. Head, Biomedical and Environmental Assessment Division

LDH/jmw Enclosures